THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Complaints of a commercial nature are basically for the parties concerned to resolve between themselves. Wherever necessary, Government uses what good offices are possible to facilitate a resolution of such differences.

Agreement with Tajikistan

2799. SHRI SYED SIBTY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreements on economic trade, commercial; banking, culture and sports have been signed with Tajikistan in 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any follow up action has been taken to implement these agreements; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In 1993 following agreements on subjects mentioned in part (a) of the Question were signed:

(i) Agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on 15th February, '93 in New Delhi.

(ii) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on cooperation in the spheres of culture, arts, education, science, mass media (including cinematography) and sports on 15th February, '93 in New Delhi.

(iii) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on trade and economic cooperation on 15th February, '93 in New Delhi.

(iv) Agreement on cooperation between the commercial bank for foreign economic activity of the Republic of Tajikistan (Tajikvnesh-Econombank) and the State Bank of India on 15th February, '93 in New Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The agreement mentioned at (b) (i) aims an facilitating cooperation in the exchange of technical knowledge and skills. One nominee from Tajikistan has received training in foreign trade and three nominees are to receive training in hotel management under ITEC Programme; the Govt. has offered upto 10 slots in areas such as diplomacy, foreign trade, hotel management, banking and journalism. Pursuant to the agreement mentioned at (b) (ii) above the Indian draft programme of cooperation is under consideration of the Government of Tajikistan. The agreement at (b) (iii) aims at the development of trade and commercial relations with Tajikistan. The Government is making efforts on on-going basis for promotion of trade including, inter alia, promotion of counter trade, joint venture and mutual investment, extension of Government credit line of US $ 5 million, encouragement of direct business level contacts and extension of technical assistance in areas such as trade, marketing, management, banking and training of personnel. The agreement at (b) (iv) provides for establishment of correspondent relations between the State Bank of India and Tajik signatory bank, exchange and training of banking specialists. The State Bank of India has also entered into agency agreements with the national bank of the Republic of Tajiki-

stan covering bank drafts, mail transfers and telegraphic transfers as well as documentary letters of credit and collection of payments.

NAM Resolution over Bosnia Herzegovina

2800. SHRI SYED SIBTY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Non-Aligned Movement Foreign Ministers Conference, held at Jakarta, have approved a resolution calling for Special UN Session on Bosnia-Herzegovina;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with background for such a resolution;

(c) whether Members of NAM have made any efforts to achieve their objectives;

(d) whether Government propose to take some initiatives in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The Consultative Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Select Nonaligned countries was convened in Jakarta from February 9-11, 1994. The situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina was one of the issues discussed during the meeting. No resolution was adopted by the Ministers on the subject, However, it was agreed that that the NAM Coordinating Bureau in New York should convene a meeting of member States to explore avenues for further action through the United Nations Channels.

(d) and (e) India is a member of the NAM Task Force established to develop a coordinated NAM position on this issue. We are working closely with fellow NAM member States to evolve a consensus on the future course of action for the Nonaligned Movement with regard to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Bilateral Dialogue between India and U.S.A.

2801. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some bilateral dialogue at the Senior Officers level of India and U.S. held at New Delhi during February, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details of issued discussed;

(c) whether these dialogues would make a basis for strengthening the relations of the two countries in the political, economic and technological fields;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether these dialogues will continue to make basis for visit of Prime Minister to Washington during the current year; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (f) The Director in the US State Department's Bureau for South Asian Affairs, visited India from February 16—20, 1994. His visit formed part of a familiarization tour to select countries in the region. Such familiarization visits are routine for officials of the US State Department.

During the course of his visit, the US official met his counterparts in the Ministries of External Affairs, Finance, Home and Commerce. Discussions covered Indo-US relations and facilitated a useful exchange of views which contributed to a better understanding of each other's perception.